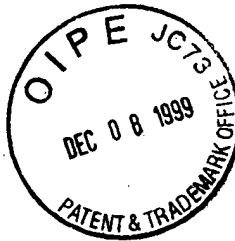


PERCUS.019CP1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Muni et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/049,857  
Filed : March 27, 1998  
For : ASPIRATION METHOD  
Examiner : D. Blyveis



Group Art Unit 3763

PATENT

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December 3, 1999

(Date)

Sabing H. Lee, Reg. No. 43,745

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 22, 1999, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 9, line 17, please replace "FIGURE 7" with --FIGURE 7A--.

On page 9, line 18, please add the following after the second occurrence of "FIGURE 5":

B<sup>1</sup> illustrating a guidewire positioned in the guidewire lumen.

: L On page 9, line 19, please insert the following: FIGURE 7B is a cross-section of an

B<sup>2</sup> alternate embodiment of the proximal end of the aspiration catheter of FIGURE 5, showing a slit in the outside wall of the guidewire lumen that facilitates removal of the guidewire.--

On page 17, line 26, please replace "08/813,808" and replace with --08/812,876--.

On page 18, lines 4-5, please replace "filed on the same date as the present invention" with -- Serial No. 09/049,712--.

On page 18, line 6, please delete "(Attorney Docket No. PERCUS.071A)".